



Jenn Schumacher Tristano

July 27, 2024 · 🌐



The most recent SWCDS BOE members ran on a platform of transparency and community involvement. It was a lie. They refused to second a motion to let anyone speak. They did decide to reduce Tarazi's responsibilities but not the \$9K monthly retainer fee.

Thankfully, we don't depend on bussing. Do you? Did you opt in for next year? Did they cut your elementary student's transportation to before or after school care?

The BOE can't afford to pay our drivers a fair wage but they have money for this joke of a lawyer with no education law experience.

Tagging those community first members here: [Denise DAngelo Steele](#) [Julie Rahrig Liskany](#)

"The South-Western Education Association is watching the Board of Education's actions with great concern. SWEA is baffled by the Board's insistence on pursuing this excessive level of legal representation for themselves – and their disregard for the extreme cost to taxpayers for these services – when the district already has and continues to have the comprehensive services of a team of qualified attorneys through the law firm with which it has long held a contract. Mr. Tarazi has demonstrated that he is not an expert in education law, and SWEA has many questions about why the Board feels it needs Mr. Tarazi's services specifically and how they are justifying the added expense for the district, when that money could be much better spent on services and resources to meet our students' needs.

Unfortunately, SWEA members were unable to ask the Board these questions because they formalized Mr. Tarazi's contract in a special meeting without giving community members any opportunity to participate. The taxpayers, educators, and students of this district deserve better."



Amber Noonan, SWEA President Elect



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NEW: Statement from SWEA President-Elect Amber Noonan regarding the Board of Education's formal contract with attorney Omar Tarazi, approved in a 3-1 vote at a Special Board Meeting on Monday, July 22.